

2018 Regular Session

SENATE BILL NO. 381

BY SENATOR CARTER

SCHOOLS. Provides relative to unified student enrollment systems in certain school systems. (8/1/18)

1 AN ACT

2 To enact R.S. 17:10.7.1(J), relative to schools returned to certain transferring school systems

3 by the Recovery School District; to provide relative to the duties of the local school

4 board of a system that receives these schools; to provide with respect to the

5 assignment of students to schools under the board's jurisdiction; to provide for

6 effectiveness; and to provide for related matters.

7 Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana:

8 Section 1. R.S. 17:10.7.1(J) is hereby enacted to read as follows:

9 §10.7.1. Return of certain schools from the Recovery School District to the

10 transferring school system; time line; conditions; funding

11 * * *

12 **J.(1) Notwithstanding any other provision of law, including Subsection**

13 **E of this Section, any parish-wide or other unified enrollment system utilized**

14 **by the local school board to assign students to schools under its jurisdiction**

15 **shall, at a minimum:**

16 **(a) Establish a geographic zone for each school and provide that at least**

17 **twenty percent, but not more than fifty percent, of the students assigned to and**

1 enrolled in the school reside in that geographic zone.

2 (b) Provide that if the board does not receive a sufficient number of
3 applications from students residing in a school's geographic zone to meet the
4 required minimum enrollment percentage, then the excess seats may be filled
5 by students residing outside of the school's geographic zone in a subsequent
6 selection round.

7 (c) Provide that when there is excess enrollment capacity in a school at
8 any point in time, a student who resides in the school's geographic zone may
9 apply to and be enrolled in the school at any time during the school year.

10 (d) Provide a reasonable time frame within which a student can submit
11 an application for admission to the school or schools of his choice. The first or
12 main application round must begin no earlier than November fifteenth and
13 conclude no later than March fifteenth of each year.

14 (2) The provisions of this Subsection shall be implemented by the local
15 school board not later than the 2019-2020 school year.

The original instrument and the following digest, which constitutes no part of the legislative instrument, were prepared by Jeanne C. Johnston.

DIGEST

SB 381 Original

2018 Regular Session

Carter

Present law (R.S.17:10.7) provided for the transfer of failing schools in a school district deemed by the State Board of Elementary and Secondary Education to be in academic crisis to the Recovery School District (RSD).

Present law (R.S. 17:10.7.1) requires the RSD to return these schools to the transferring school system not later than July 1, 2019. Further provides time lines, procedures, and conditions for the schools' return to the transferring local school system.

Present law requires that all schools in the system must participate in a parish-wide student enrollment system for the purpose of assigning students to each school in the system. Further allows the school board to provide a lottery preference for enrollment at elementary and middle schools for students residing within defined geographic zones as one of the factors to determine student assignment.

Proposed law provides that beginning not later than the 2019-2020 school year, any parish-wide or other unified enrollment system utilized by the local school board to assign students to schools under its jurisdiction shall, at a minimum:

- (1) Establish a geographic zone for each school and provide that at least 20% but not more than 50%, of the students assigned to and enrolled in the school reside in that geographic zone.

- (2) Provide that if the board does not receive a sufficient number of applications from students residing in a school's geographic zone to meet the required minimum enrollment percentage, then the excess seats may be filled by students residing outside of the school's geographic zone in a subsequent selection round.
- (3) Provide that when there is excess enrollment capacity in a school at any point in time, a student who resides in the school's geographic zone may apply to and be enrolled in the school at any time during the school year.
- (4) Provide a reasonable time frame within which a student can submit an application for admission to the school or schools of his choice. The first or main application round must begin no earlier than November 15th and conclude no later than March 15th of each year.

Effective August 1, 2018.

(Adds R.S. 17:10.7.1(J))